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REMARKS

Claims 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24-27, 29-31, 33-36, 38, 39 and 41-50, 52, and 54-56 remain pending. Allowable claims 51 and 53 have been canceled, and their subject matter incorporated into independent claims 9 and 21, respectively.

As indicated in the Office Action, only independent claims 9 and 21 (and some of their dependent claims) were rejected, but claims 51 (which depended from claim 9) and 53 (which depended from claim 21) were indicated as allowable. The subject matter of these allowable claims have been incorporated into claims 9 and 21 respectively.

Accordingly, all of claims 9, 21, and all their dependent claims are believed to be allowable. The remainder of the pending claims were allowed in the Office Action and have not been changed.

It should be noted that claim 12 was erroneously rejected in the Office Action, because it was changed to depend from claim 51 in the Preliminary Amendment. Claim 12 should have been indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Similarly, claims 24 and 25 were erroneously rejected in the Office Action, because claim 24 was changed to depend from claim 53 in the Preliminary Amendment. Claims 24 and 25 also should have been indicated as allowable in the Office Action. No matter; these claims now depend from amended and allowable claims 9 and 21.

In view of the above, prompt allowance of pending claims 9, 10, 12-15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24-27, 29-31, 33-36, 38, 39 and 41-50, 52, and 54-56 is respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Alan Pedersen-Giles, attorney for Applicant, at the number below to discuss such matters.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0221 and please credit any excess

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fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 5, 2007



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